

Ansterlitz. At the same time the call to the field was obeyed throughout all parts of the Empire; the Princes of the Confederation of the Rhine were ordered to muster their contingents; armed men were raised and collected in thousands in Poland, in Holland, in the wilds of Illyria, and even in the conquered provinces of Spain; a great army was marshalled in Italy and held in readiness to cross the Alps; and treaties were made with Austria and Prussia, by which these Powers pledged themselves to furnish considerable additions to the huge force which was being directed against their old ally. Meanwhile, Germany being nearly as much under the control of Napoleon as France, itself, arrangements were made on a great scale, for the transport and subsistence of troops along the space from the Rube to the Niemen; the granaries of Poland were moved to the seaboard, and accumulated in numerous *depots* from the Oder and Vistula to the Elbe; the important fortresses of Danzig and Königsberg were strengthened, and made vast places of arms capable of satisfying the needs of whole *countries* of farmers; and abundantly provided with magazines and warlike material of all kinds; the navigation of the Elbe and Curische Bay was carefully surveyed and connected with that of the Pregel and Nemm; and carriage, wagons, and carts were constructed in thousands to bear the supplies of the army which was destined to move into the plains of Prussia.

"Though it was of course impossible to conceal them altogether, Napoleon masked these immense preparations with extraordinary dexterity and art; and whatever they thought of his good faith, his conduct was marked with the utmost ability. While he strained every nerve to accomplish his object, he deceived the Czar, only too anxious to conjure away what appeared destruction, with the pretence of negotiation and peace; he announced him that the condition of Germany was the real cause of the present armament; and by the success of his guile that his plan was far advanced and that troops in motion at all points before Alexander was convinced of the truth. By the early spring of 1812 the French had more than 400,000 men in readiness for the intended enterprise; and under his guidance, this enormous force, still widely scattered throughout the Empire, was gradually directed towards the theatre of operation. While Kutuzov's army crossed the Bavarian frontier, Davout, with the vanguard of the main army, followed to the Vistula across Germany, and the Polish corps under Poniatowski, in the Grand Duchy of Warsaw, with the army of the North German cities: the remaining army drawing together from the Rhine, the Main, and the Danube, and marching forward in dense procession, 400,000 men were directed to the invasion and to cross the Niemen to the Prussian frontier. In the second week of May (Germany, and to supply the invasion of the war; and, with the Austrian and Prussian contingents, not more than 100,000 men under the Imperial eagles entered